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The  
English Ancestry of the American  
Family of Arnold

Horatio Gates Somersby

MARTIN & ALLARDYCE  
ASBURY PARK, N. J.

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# The English Ancestry of the American Family of Arnold

By Horatio G. Somerby.

Compiled from Heralds' Visitations, Inquisitions Post Mortem, Subsidy Rolls, Wills, Parish Registers, and other original documents.

Arms: Gules, a chevron ermine between three pheons or.  
Crest—A lion rampant gules holding in his paws a lozenge or.  
Motto—Mihi Gloria Cessum.

The family of **Arnold** is of great antiquity, having its origin among the ancient princes of Wales. According to a pedigree recorded in the College of Arms, they trace from Ynir, King of Gwentland, who flourished about the middle of the twelfth century, and who was paternally descended from Ynir, the second son of Cadwaladr, king of the Britons; which Cadwaladr built Abergavenny in the county of Monmouth, and its castle, which was afterwards rebuilt by Hamlet ap Hamlet, ap Sir Druce of Balladon, in France, and portions of the walls still remain.

This YNIR,<sup>1</sup> King of Gwentland, by his wife Nesta, daughter of Jestin ap Gurgan, King of Glamorgan, had a son

MEIRIC,<sup>2</sup> who succeeded his father as King of Gwentland, and left by his wife Eleanor, daughter of Ednived ap Jerworth, of the house of Trevor, a son

YNIR VICHAN,<sup>3</sup> who was also King of Gwent, and married Gladice, daughter of Rhys Goch ap Maenerch, Lord of Ystradyw, in Brecknockshire, by whom he had a son

CARADOR, AP YNIR VICHAN, Lord of Gwent, whose wife was Nesta, daughter and heir of Sir Rydereck le Gros, Knight, by whom he had a son

DYFNWALL, AP CARADOR, Lord of Gwent, who married Joyes, daughter of Hamlet ap Sir Druce, Duke of Balladon, in France. Her brother Hamlet rebuilt the Castle of Abergavenny, as before mentioned. Their son

SYSTYL, AP DYFNWALL, Lord of Upper Gwent, married Annest, daughter and heir of Sir Peter Russell, Knight, Lord of Kentchurch in the county of Hereford, and by her he had a son



ARTHUR, AP SYSSYLTH, whose wife was Jane, daughter of Lein ap Moreidhec Warwyn, Lord of Cantrsblyn. Their son

MEIRIC, AP ARTHUR, married Annest, daughter of Cradock ap Einon ap Golhroyn, by whom he had a son

GWILLIM, AP MEIRIC, Esquire, who married Jane, daughter and coheir of Ivor ap Syssylht, Lord of Lyhs Talybont, and had a son

ARNHOLT,<sup>10</sup> AP GWILLIM, of Meiric, Esquire, who by his wife Janet, daughter of Philip Fleming, Esquire, was father of a son

ARNHOLT,<sup>11</sup> AP ARNHOLT VYCHAN, Esquire, whose wife was Sybil, daughter of Madoc ap Einon ap Thomas, by whom he had a son

ROGER,<sup>12</sup> ARNOLD, of Llanthony, in Monmouthshire, Esquire, the first of the family who adopted a surname. He married Joan, daughter of Sir Thomas Gamage, Knight, Lord of Coytey, and their son

THOMAS,<sup>13</sup> ARNOLD, Esquire, succeeded to Llanthony and other estates in Monmouthshire. By his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir Richard Warnestead, Knight, he had issue two sons, namely:

1. John Arnold, eldest son, who in 1541 had granted to him the livery and manor of Higham and Over, in the parish of Churcham and co. of Gloucester, where he died Sept. 15, 1545. Buried in church of Churcham. Brass plate. Arms: Gules, a chevron Ermine, between three pheons or.
2. Richard Arnold,

RICHARD,<sup>14</sup> ARNOLD, the second son of Thomas Arnold of Llanthony, removed into Somersetshire, and resided in the parish of Street. He married Emmote, daughter and heir of Pearce Young, of Damerham, in Wiltshire, by whom he had three sons, namely:

RICHARD,<sup>15</sup> ARNOLD, eldest son and heir of Richard Arnold, of Somersetshire, removed into Dorsetshire, and became seated at Bagbere, in the parish of Middleton, otherwise Milton Abbas. He was Lord of the manor of Bagbere, and also possessed estates in Alton Pancras, Buckland Newton, Cheselbourne, Melcombe Horsey, and other places in that county. He was also patron of the churches of Blandford and of Bingham Melcombe. His name appears in the Subsidy Rolls of the county of Dorset, as being assessed to the King's subsidies

in 1549. He is also mentioned in the inquisition held in 1607, after the death of his son Richard, respecting the tenure of the estates. His manor house at Bagbere was standing until a few years since [1870], when it was demolished, and a smaller building, occupied as a farm house, erected upon its site. A small portion of the ancient building incorporated in the walls of the modern dwelling, is the only vestige of the original building. Mr. Arnold made his last will and testament on the 15th of May, 1593, which was proved July 9, 1595. He desires "to be buried in the Parishe Church of Milton in the Ile called Jesus Ile as we goe to the Tower." The church of Milton was restored a few years since, and many of the ancient memorials removed. The early parish registers have also been lost, the oldest now in possession of the Vicar dating from 1650. Mr. Arnold was twice married. By his first wife he had, besides a daughter Repentance, who became the wife of her cousin William Arnold \* \* \* \* four sons, namely: 1. Richard Arnold of Alton Pancras. [2 Thomas.] 3. Robert, of Armswell. 4. John, the elder by first wife, [etc.], \* \* \* \*

THOMAS, ARNOLD, the second son of Richard, Arnold, of Bagbere, is mentioned in the will of his father. He resided some time at Melcombe Horsey, as appears from the Subsidy Rolls, of the year 1598, from which place he removed to Cheselbourne, and seated himself on an estate previously belonging to his father. The earliest parish registers now extant of Cheselbourne date only from 1644, and those of Melcombe Horsey from 1690. Fortunately, however, this branch of the family possessed a private record of the baptisms of their children, which was preserved and brought to America. Mr. Arnold was twice married. His first wife was Alice, daughter of John Gulley, of North Over, in the parish of Tolpuddle, a short distance from Cheselbourne. By this marriage he had

1. Thomazine, whose husband was — Hooker, by whom she had Robert, bapt. Jan. 23, 1697; Julian, Jan. 24, 1599; John, Oct. 25, 1601; William, Oct. 31, 1604; Alice, born Aug. 27, 1607; Mary, March 4, 1609; Thomas, April 7, 1616.
2. Joanna, bapt. Nov. 30, 1577. Her husband was — Hopkins, by whom she had Francis, bapt. May 23, 1614; Thomas, April 7, 1616; Elizabeth, July 3, 1619.
3. Margery, bapt. Aug. 30, 1581.
4. Robert, bapt. —, 1583.
5. John, born 1585. He resided at Cheselbourne, where he died in 1616, leaving children—John, William, Edith, Thomas, and Christian. On the 23d of November, 1616, his brother William, of Cheselbourne; afterwards of New England, was appointed ad-



ministrator to the estate and guardian of the children during their minority.

[6. William.]

Mr. Thomas Arnold by his second wife had one son and two daughters, namely:

[7.] Elizabeth, b. in 1596; m. Feb. 1617, to John Sayles, Jr.

[8.] Thomas, bapt. April 18, 1599.\*

[9.] Eleanor, bapt. July 31, 1606.

**WILLIAM<sup>17</sup> ARNOLD**, the youngest son of Thomas<sup>16</sup> Arnold, of Cheselbourne, by his first wife was born June 24, 1587.† The early parish registers of Cheselbourne have not

\*THOMAS<sup>17</sup> ARNOLD settled in Watertown, Mass., as early as 1640, and, on the 13th of May of that year, was admitted freeman of the colony. He is supposed by Savage (Gen. Dict. i. 66), Locke (ante, v. 250), and Bond (Wat. i. 9), to have been the Thomas Arnold, aged 30, who embarked May 15, 1635, in the Plain Joan for Virginia (ante, ii. 212); but if so his age is not correctly given. His first wife's name is not known. He married, probably about 1640, Phebe, daughter of George Parkhurst, of Watertown. In 1654 and 1655 he was fined for not attending public worship. He afterwards removed to Providence, and was admitted freeman of the Rhode Island colony, May 18, 1658. He was deputy in 1670. He died March 24, 1674-5.

His children by his first wife were—1. Thomas<sup>118</sup> b. May 3, 1625, d. young; 2. Nicholas<sup>118</sup> bapt. Jan. 15, 1627, d. young; 3. Susannah<sup>118</sup> m. at Boston, April 7, 1654, John Farnum.

By his wife Phebe he had—4. Ichabod<sup>118</sup> born at Watertown, March 1, 1640-1; 5. Richard<sup>118</sup> b. at W. March 22, 1642-3; 6. Elizabeth<sup>118</sup> b. 1645, m. Samuel Comstock, and died 1745; 7. John<sup>118</sup> b. at W. Feb. 19, 1647-8, d. at Providence Jan. 5, 1722; 8. Eleazer<sup>118</sup> b. at W. June 17, 1651, d. at Providence Aug. 29, 1722.

**RICHARD<sup>18</sup> ARNOLD**, eldest surviving son of the preceding, was born at Watertown, March 22, 1642-3, and died at Providence April 22, 1710. He had son Thomas<sup>119</sup> b. March 4, 1675, whose son Jonathan<sup>20</sup> (b. Nov. 18, 1708, d. Dec. 29, 1796), m. Abigail, daughter of Benjamin Smith, of Providence, and was father of Welcome<sup>21</sup> b. March 25, 1745, who m. Patience, daughter of Samuel Greene, by whom he had Samuel<sup>22</sup> (b. Jan. 30, 1778, d. 1826), m. Sept. 1813, Frances, daughter of John Rogers, by whom he had the Hon. Samuel Greene<sup>23</sup> Arnold, the historian of Rhode Island.—H. T. D.

†**WILLIAM<sup>17</sup> ARNOLD** set sail with his family from Dartmouth, old England, May 1, 1635, and arrived on the 24th of the following month in New England. In Lincoln's "History of Hingham, Mass," he is mentioned as William Arnall, and as coming thither in 1635. He removed with his family on the 20th of April, 1636, to Providence. He received grants of land from Roger Williams, and his initials W. A. are second in the famous Initial Deed of R. W. His real estate was mostly in Providence, Pawtuxet and Warwick, where he had houses and lived at his pleasure. He was held in high esteem, and filled various important offices of trust. The scanty records of Rhode Island afford but little information concerning the early settlers. It is probable that he was buried on his homestead in Pawtuxet, R. I.—H. T. D.

been preserved, those now in existence dating only from 1644. Private memoranda, however, taken with the family to New England, supply important links in the genealogy. He resided at Cheselbourne, where on the 23d of November, 1616, he was appointed administrator to the estate of his brother John, also of Cheselbourne, and guardian to his children during their minority, one of whom, William, in an affidavit respecting the sequestration of lands in the time of the Commonwealth, speaks of his uncle in foreign parts.

In the year 1635, Mr. Arnold, with his family, left Dorsetshire and came to New England. After residing a short time at Hingham, in Massachusetts, he became associated in 1636 with Roger Williams and others in the purchase from the Indians of lands at Mooshausick, which was afterwards called Providence, of which colony Mr. Williams procured the first charter. The place which they selected for their settlement they called Providence, for certain reasons presented by Mr. Williams. The land was parcelled out among the associates, Mr. Arnold receiving large portions in Providence, and Pawtuxet and Warwick. He was held in much esteem, and filled various important offices of trust. The scanty records of Rhode Island afford very little information respecting him, not even the time of his death being known. The last mention of him in the colonial records of the proceedings of the General Court at Providence, March 9, 1658-9, states that he was lately robbed of property at Pawtuxet by the Indians. It is probable he died soon after. His wife was Christian, whose surname has not been preserved. Their children were:

1. Elizabeth, b. Nov. 23, 1611; m. to Thomas Hopkins.
2. Benedict, b. Dec. 3, 1615, the oldest son, removed to Newport in 1653, and was chosen Assistant to manage the affairs of the colony in the following year. In 1657 he succeeded Mr. Williams as Governor, and continued in that office till 1660. He was also Governor from 1662 to 1666, from 1669 to 1672, and from 1677 to 1678—in which last year he died. He was the wealthiest man in the colony, and by thorough acquaintance with the manners as well as the language of the Indians, he became the most efficient auxiliary in all negotiations with them. He died in 1678, having made his last will and testament on the 24th of December in the year preceding, to which he added a codicil on the 10th of the following February. His wife was Damaris, daughter of Stukely Westcott, of Providence, by whom he had
  1. Godsgift,, m. to Edward Pelham [ante, xxvi. 401; xxxiii. 292].
  2. Josiah,, of Providence, and of Jamestown in Conanicut; a captain. He m. Mary, eldest daughter of Thomas Ward, of Newport.

3. Benedict,<sup>10</sup> b. 1641; of Newport. Assistant from 1690 to 1695. Representative to the General Court in 1699. His first wife, whom he m. March 9, 1671, and by whom he had six children, was Mary Turner. By his second wife, Sarah Mumford, he had three daughters.\*
4. Freeloove,<sup>10</sup> was the second wife of Edward Pelham.
5. Oliver,<sup>10</sup> of Jamestown; left issue by his wife Phoebe.
6. Caleb,<sup>10</sup>
7. Damaris,<sup>10</sup> m. to John Bliss.
8. Priscilla,<sup>10</sup>
9. Penelope,<sup>10</sup> m. to Roger Goulding.
3. Joanna, b. Feb. 27, 1617.
4. Stephen.

STEPHEN,<sup>10</sup> ARNOLD, the youngest son of William,<sup>10</sup> Arnold, was born December 22, 1622.† He came with his father to New England, and after residing some time at Providence removed to Pawtuxet, where, and at other places in Rhode Island, he had large landed property, a portion of which, called the Coweset Purchase, he divided among his sons in his life-time. He was prominent in public affairs, and filled important situations in the colony. He was chosen Deputy Governor in 1664, and Assistant in 1667. The exact date of his death is 15th November, 1699. His wife, whom he married November 24, 1646, was Sarah, daughter of Edward Smith, of Rehoboth. Their children were:

1. Esther, b. Sept. 22, 1647; m. to — Hawkins.
2. Israel, b. Oct. 30, 1649, eldest son of Stephen Arnold, of Pawtuxet. He resided on the south part of the Arnold Purchase, in Pawtuxet, which his father gave him. He made his will on the 23d of March, 1716-17, and died on the 15th of the following September.

\*Capt. Benedict and Capt. Oliver Arnold, brothers (Caulkin's "History of Norwich," ed. 1866, p. 409), settled at Norwich, Ct., early in the eighteenth century. From the Arnold genealogical tree we learn that they were sons of Benedict,<sup>10</sup> born 1641, and grandsons of Gov. Benedict,<sup>10</sup> Arnold. Capt. Benedict,<sup>10</sup> Arnold married, Nov. 8, 1733, at N., Mrs. Hannah (Waterman) King, widow of Absalom King, and had nine children, whose names and birth-dates are given in Hinman's "Puritan Settlers of Connecticut," second ed. p. 60. The oldest child, Benedict, died young. The second child, Gen. Benedict,<sup>10</sup> Arnold, born at Norwich, Jan. 3, 1740-1, died at London, June 14, 1801. His services in the revolutionary war and subsequent treason are well known. Gen. Arnold had (Burke's Landed Gentry, London, 1853, vol. i. p. 26) five children: 1. Lt. Edward; 2. Major-Gen. James R.; 3. Lt.-Col. George; 4. William F.; 5. Sophia M., m. Col. Pownall Phipps.—Editor.

†The following inscriptions are on the gravestones of Mr. Arnold and his wife:

"Here lies the body of Stephen Arnold aged 77. Deceased 15th November 1699."

"Here lies the body of Sarah Arnold aged 84; deceased April 15th 1713."—H. T. D.



His wife, whom he married April 18, 1677, was Mary, daughter of James Barber and widow of ——— Smith. He resided on Providence River, north of John Greene.†

3. Stephen, b. Nov. 27, 1654. He received from his father the north third of the Coweset Purchase. He had a son Philip who married Susannah, adughter of Capt. Benjamin Greene, of Mishantirut (now known as the Dutee Arnold place).
4. Elizabeth, b. Nov. 2, 1659; d. June 5, 1728. Her husband was Peter Greene, Deputy Governor of Rhode Island.
5. Elisha, b. Feb. 18, 1662. He received from his father the middle portion of the Coweset Purchase. His wife Susannah, daughter of William Carpenter. He d. March 24, 1710.
6. Sarah, b. Jan. 26, 1665; m. to ——— Carpenter.
7. Phoebe, b. Nov. 9, 1671; m. Dec. 25, 1691, to Benjamin Smith.

†ISRAEL<sub>19</sub> ARNOLD, by his wife Mary Smith, had ten children, the second of whom, William<sub>20</sub>, was admitted freeman 1708, and died 1759. His eldest son Josiah<sub>21</sub> was twice married, and had by his first wife David<sub>22</sub> Arnold, of Old Warwick, R. I., who married Aug. 29, 1765, Waite, daughter of Moses Lippitt. They had eleven children, of whom Benedict<sub>23</sub> Arnold, born Sept. 15, 1777, died at Providence, R. I., Nov. 4, 1831, married Dec. 10, 1810, Mary, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Greene, of Stone Castle, in Warwick. They had—1. Lucy Lippitt<sub>24</sub>, born Oct. 2, 1811, died March 19, 1848, married Zebediah Ingalls, of New York; 2. Benjamin Greene<sub>24</sub>, born May 16, 1813; 3. Margaret Wickes<sub>24</sub>, born May 12, 1815; 4. Charles Henry<sub>24</sub>, born Dec. 23, 1816, died April 4, 1842; 5. Sarah Wickes<sub>24</sub>, born Sept. 20, 1820.

BENJAMIN GREENE<sub>24</sub> ARNOLD, Esq., eldest son of Benedict and Mary (Greene) Arnold, is a merchant in New York, and the owner of the volume from which extracts are printed in the text. He married Aug. 6, 1839, Frances Sarah, daughter of John Burges Snow, of Providence, and has had children—1. Charlotte Bruce; 2. Frances; 3. Francis Benjamin, married Augusta, daughter of Hon. Elisha Foote of Washington, D. C.; 4. Charles Henry; 5. Robert, died May 31, 1875; 6. Mary, died at Paris, France, Sept. 28, 1872; 7. Grace; 8. Edna; 9. Constance.

JAMES<sub>20</sub> ARNOLD, another son of Israel<sub>19</sub>, was born 1689, died 1777, married Jan. 24, 1719, Elizabeth Rhodes (dau. of Peleg Rhodes), born 1703, died 1767. Their son James<sub>21</sub> Arnold, born 1723, died Jan. 6, 1793, married in 1744, Elizabeth<sub>22</sub> Arnold, born Sept. 24, 1724, died August 11, 1811. (She was dau. of Philip<sub>20</sub> Arnold, born Feb. 12, 1693, son of Stephen<sub>19</sub>, born Nov. 27, 1654, son of Stephen<sub>18</sub>, son of William<sub>17</sub>.) Their son, George<sub>23</sub> Arnold, born 1747, died 1822, married about 1771, Ruth Utter, born Dec. 11, 1747, died March 18, 1836, had a son James Utter<sub>24</sub> Arnold, born June 4, 1776, died Feb. 3, 1852, who married May 5, 1798, Mehitabel Carpenter, born April 26, 1778, died Jan. 5, 1864. Their son, George Carpenter<sub>24</sub> Arnold, born July 24, 1803, married May 19, 1831, Phebe<sub>24</sub> Rhodes, born Dec. 18, 1810, whose daughter Sarah Rhodes<sub>25</sub> Arnold, born March 2, 1832, married Dec. 24, 1851, Henry Thayer<sub>25</sub> Drowne, born March 25, 1822, whose son, Henry Russell<sub>25</sub> Drowne, born Aug. 31, 1860, is in the tenth generation, maternally and paternally, from William<sub>17</sub> Arnold.—H. T. D.









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